## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A nitrogen oxide removal catalyst system, comprising a first reaction part for denitrating nitrogen oxides by reacting said nitrogen oxide with ammonia, being provided with a first catalyst containing, as active constituents, at least: a complex oxide consisting of two or more oxides selected from silica, alumina, titania, zirconia, and tungsten oxide; and a rare earth metal or a transition metal (except Cu, Co, Ni, Mn, Cr, and V); and
- a second reaction part for oxidatively decomposing ammonia that has leaked from the first reaction part, being provided with a second catalyst containing, as active constituents, at least: a noble metal and a silica-alumina type complex oxide.
- The nitrogen oxide removal catalyst system of claim
   wherein the first catalyst further contains sulfur or
   phosphorus.
- The nitrogen oxide removal catalyst system of claim
   wherein the first catalyst contains, as active constituents,
   at least: a titania-zirconia type complex oxide; a rare earth
   metal or a transition metal (except Cu, Co, Ni, Mn, Cr, and V);
   and sulfur or phosphorus.
- The nitrogen oxide removal catalyst system of claim
   wherein the first catalyst contains, as active constituents,
   at least: a tungsten oxide-zirconia type complex oxide; a rare earth metal or a transition metal (except Cu, Co, Ni, Mn, Cr, and V); and sulfur or phosphorus.

- 5. The nitrogen oxide removal catalyst system of claim 1, wherein the first catalyst contains, as active constituents, at least: a silica-alumina type complex oxide and a rare earth metal.
- The nitrogen oxide removal catalyst system of claim 1, wherein the first catalyst consists of a silica-alumina type complex oxide and a transition metal (except Cu, Co, Ni, Mn, Cr, and V).
- 7. The nitrogen oxide removal catalyst system of any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein a composite containing, as active constituents, at least: an oxide selected from silica, alumina, titania, zirconia, and tungsten oxide; and a rare earth metal or a transition metal (except Cu, Co, Ni, Mn, Cr, and V), is supported by the first catalyst.
- 15 8. The nitrogen oxide removal catalyst system of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein a composite containing, as active constituents, at least: an oxide selected from silica, alumina, titania, zirconia, and tungsten oxide; and a rare earth metal or a transition metal (except Cu, Co, Ni, Mn, Cr, and V), is supported by the second catalyst.
  - 9. The nitrogen oxide removal catalyst system of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein said catalyst is supported by a carrier substrate.
- 10. The nitrogen oxide removal catalyst system of any one
  25 of claims 1 to 9, further comprising, at an upstream side of
  thee first reaction part, a third reaction part for oxidizing
  a nitrogen compound by reacting the nitrogen compound with

oxygen.

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11. A nitrogen oxide removal method comprising

denitrating nitrogen oxides reductively by contacting the nitrogen oxides with a first catalyst in the presence of ammonia, the first catalyst containing, as active constituents, at least: a complex oxide comprising two or more oxides selected from silica, alumina, titania, zirconia, and tungsten oxide; and a rare earth metal or transition metal (except Cu, Co, Ni, Mn, Cr, and V); and

decomposing unreacted ammonia oxidatively by contacting the untreated ammonia with a second catalyst, the second catalyst containing, as active constituents, at least, a noble metal and a silica-alumina type complex oxide.